Equal Rights

VOL. XIII, No. 35
FIVE CENTS

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 16, 1926

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
16
PERIODICAL DIVISION.

Mary A. Murray

Chairman of the Industrial Council of the National Woman's Party and President of the Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit Railroad Women's League. Mrs. Murray was the guest of the Syracuse Branch of the National Woman's Party while the Biennial Convention of the Democratic Party of New York State was in session in that city. During her visit she made numerous addresses.

Feminist Notes

British Women Architects

WOMEN architects are on the increase in Great Britain. The pioneers qualified for admission to the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1898, and now there are at least seven women associate members of this body. Since the war, hundreds of students have attended the various architectural schools. One of these is now in partnership in Liverpool with a male student.

Mexican Women's Progress

YUCATAN and one other Mexican State have granted women the suffrage. Mexican women have much more freedom than formerly. Girls work in offices, and women enter the universities and the professions. The head of the Library Department of the National Department of Education is a woman lawyer.

Woman Chairman of Postoffice Union

THE first woman to hold a high post in a British Civil Service Union composed of both men and women is Marion Herring, who has just been elected chairman of the Executive Council of the Union of Postoffice Workers. Miss Herring has made a strong fight for equality between men and women in the postoffice service in England.

Combining Homes and Careers

THE New York *Times* is on record as favoring women's continuing their industry, business, or profession after marriage. Commenting upon an article by Louis I. Dublin in the *Atlantic Monthly*, the *Times* says:

"Educated women sometimes seem forced to make a choice between matrimony and a career. From the woman's point of view, the exclusion of either road means a certain impoverishment of life. From the community point of view, it means serious losses to society. The children of an able, trained woman are an asset to a community. But if she marries, has children and scraps her training, there is also a loss. Some means of bringing marriage and a career into harmony should be found. Mr. Dublin does not propose a panacea, but he does believe that educators can do much. Vassar and Smith Colleges have already established departments of training and homemaking. The quiet assumption that the students will marry and have families may do much to change the point of view of the girl who heretofore has felt that marriage and the pursuit of a profession are incompatible. Mr. Dublin is anxious to see the young woman married early. There is no reason why she cannot then proceed to other business."

Women Nominees for Congress

SIXTEEN women have been nominated for the national House of Representatives in the State primaries, and will be on the ballots in the general elections of November 2.

One woman, Cora M. Bixler, Socialist, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, a member of the Industrial Council of the National Woman's Party was nominated for the United States Senate, but died. The women candidates for representative, with their districts and their parties, are: Florence P. Kahn, Republican, Fourth California District (re-election); Daisy Douglas Bar, Republican, Fourth Florida District; Mrs. William H. Mason, Republican, First Kentucky District; Mrs. John W. Langley, Republican, Tenth Kentucky District (without opposition in the general elections); Edith Nourse Rogers, Republican, Fifth Massachusetts District (re-election); Minerva D. Kepple, Democrat, Fifteenth Massachusetts District; Susan T. McNair, Democrat, Seventh New Jersey District; Mary T. Norton, Democrat, Twelfth New Jersey District (re-election); Eleanor Byrns, Socialist, Eleventh New York District; Bertha H. Mailly, Socialist, Sixteenth New York District; Jessie W. Hughan, Socialist, Seventeenth New York District; Lucille Randolph, Socialist, Twenty-first New York District; Sarah Limbach, Socialist, Thirty-second Pennsylvania District; Grace Howarth, Prohibition, Thirty-second Pennsylvania District; Rose Horwitz, Democrat, Fifth Wisconsin District; and Helen W. Crosby, Prohibition, Eleventh Wisconsin District.

2,800 Women Lawyers

WHEREAS in 1880 there were only 75 women lawyers in the United States, there were 1,010 in 1900, and now there are approximately 2,800 women in the legal profession in this country. Judge Florence Allen of the Ohio State Supreme Court and Assistant Attorney General Mabel Walker Willebrandt are outstanding examples of the success of women lawyers.

Spanish Women's Progress

IN Spain today there are a number of women doctors of science, medicine, chemistry, philosophy, and law, besides a steadily increasing body of women assistants both in commercial houses and various official departments, the only exceptions being the Ministries of State, War, and Marine. Women of full age can vote for or be elected to the municipal councils, provided they are single, widowed, or legally separated from their husbands.

Japan Limits Women's Hours of Work

ACCORDING to a report from Ambassador Charles MacVeagh, at Tokyo, just made public by the Department of Commerce, 11 hours work per day will henceforth be the limit for Japanese *women and children* engaged in industry.

The amended factory law which went into effect on July 1 also prohibits the employment of minors less than 14 years of age, with the exception of those engaged in household industries. No women or juveniles may be employed between the hours of 10 P. M. and 5 A. M., and they must be given two days' holiday each month.

Says Mexico Needs Feminist Revolt

THE progress of civilization and culture in Mexico depends on the development of the Feminist movement in that country, according to Luard Carveth Wells, who has recently returned from a six weeks' tour of Lower California and Sonora. Mrs. Wells is the wife of Carveth Wells, British author and explorer.

Mexico is stagnant, Mrs. Wells declared, because of the social conventions which restrict its women. In the present organization of Catholic women to defend the church against the new religious laws she sees the first hope of a Feminist movement that may rejuvenate the country.

"Seventy per cent. of the best of Mexicans are women," she declared.

"If the women could be persuaded to rise as the suffragettes did in England a decade ago, Mexico would go ahead by leaps and bounds. The possibility of such a move seems very slight just now, the women are so worn-down and cowed and disheartened. And then they have no leader. What Mexico needs is a Pankhurst."

A Titled "Window-Cleaner"

LADY Dean Paul, who canvasses for a window-cleaning firm, takes a practical interest in the work. Besides "window cleaning," she sings and composes songs.

Burmese Women Barristers

TWO Burmese women have been successful in the pleadership examination. They are the first women to become members of the bar in the Province of Burma.

Women J. P.'s

THE Women J. P.s' Committee of the British National Council of Women, which has 300 members, is now engaged in drawing up a complete list of women J. P.s.

Mrs. Parks Speaks at Headquarters

WHEREVER she went, all around the world, she found a devoted band of women working intelligently for the full freedom of women, both in their own countries and in the international field, Alice Parks of California, told members of the District of Columbia Branch of the National Woman's Party and other guests who gathered at National Headquarters on October 10 at the reception given in her honor.

Mrs. Parks, an active worker in the California Branch of the National Woman's Party, has just returned from a tour of the world, during which she studied the Feminist movements of every country she visited, and attended the International Woman Suffrage Alliance Congress in Paris, where the National Woman's Party made its stand for Equal Rights; spoke in the Hyde Park demonstration for equal franchise in Great Britain; and took part in the international conference of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom in Dublin, where a resolution for industrial equality was adopted, following an active campaign on the part of members of the National Woman's Party and its International Advisory Council.

Mrs. Parks gave intimate glimpses of the women leaders of the countries she visited, and of the international conventions in which she participated. Nothing but good can come out of the National Woman's Party's work for admission to the International Woman's Suffrage Alliance, despite the fact that admission was denied, she said. She pointed out the fact that women have almost no share in the actual work of the League of Nations at Geneva, as an example of the need for international solidarity among Feminists whose first thought is for freedom for women everywhere.

Speaking of the Women's International League's adoption of an industrial equality resolution, Mrs. Parks said, "A resolution adopted by a congress of a convention is of as much or as little use as you make it. In order that the Women's International League's action in standing for industrial equality may count, we must bring the attention of the world to the fact that this international organization of women is on record as believing in industrial equality and full freedom for women."

The inspiration of seeing together the 82-year-old leader of the English and Irish Feminist movements, Charlotte Despard, and the youthful and enthusiastic Anita Pollitzer, secretary of the National Woman's Party, was vividly portrayed by Mrs. Parks. Miss Pollitzer was Mrs. Despard's guest following the Dublin convention. Mrs. Despard, despite her age, walked the entire five miles to the platform in Hyde Park where she spoke for equal franchise, Mrs. Parks said.

MRS. PARKS spoke particularly of the Japanese women's movement, where she found the women unusually well organized, considering the fact that men have voted for only a short time, and where all the women's organizations have united to co-operate in their work; of the French movement which is just in the intense and concentrated stage in which the American movement was the last few years before suffrage was granted in the United States; of the Philippine movement, which is strong, but isolated, needing unification before the vote can be won by this American possession; of the Indian movement, which is so greatly complicated by racial, religious, and educational difficulties; and of China, where the war prevented her penetration into the interior, but where she, nevertheless, found an ardent woman leader who has established a woman's bank to teach thrift and economic independence to the Chinese women.

FOLLOWING the reception, Mrs. Parks and Rosika Schwimmer and her mother were entertained at dinner at National Headquarters by Alice Paul, Edith Ainge, and others living at National Headquarters. Miss Schwimmer has the distinction of being the first woman ever to be minister plenipotentiary from any country. She represented Hungary in Switzerland during the short regime of Count Karolyi. Miss Schwimmer was one of the founders of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, and has been very prominent in the international peace and Equal Rights movements. She is now living in the United States, of which she is becoming a citizen, and is lecturing.

Mrs. Andrew Steward, vice-chairman of the District of Columbia Branch of the National Woman's Party, presided at the meeting at which Mrs. Parks spoke.

Senator Curtis' Grandmothers

THE stories of the pioneer grandmothers of Senator Charles E. Curtis, of Kansas, who introduced the resolution for the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution, are told in the June issue of the *Kansas Woman's Journal*.

Permelia Hubbard Curtis and Julie Gonvil Pappan, the latter of whom was a Kansas Indian, were early settlers of Kansas, the grandmothers of the Senator who remembers their influence upon him with such gratitude that he is working for the freedom of all women.

Permelia Hubbard Curtis was born in Sheffield, Massachusetts, May 14, 1807, and died in the City of Topeka, Kansas, September 6, 1903.

The Hubbards came to this country in the "Good Ship Elizabeth" in 1621. The men were a family of Presbyterian ministers and preached in the churches in Massachusetts and New Hampshire for many years. While Permelia Hubbard Curtis was a small girl her parents moved to Michigan, but after a short stay in that section they were attracted by the wonderful stories of the Indian country, and especially of the opportunities along the Wabash, and the family moved from Michigan to what is now Vermillion County, Indiana. She married William Curtis, and there were born to them fourteen children, seven boys and seven girls.

THE family moved to Mt. Florence, Kansas, near the present town of Meriden, in 1860. Mr. Curtis afterwards purchased the land upon which Topeka is now located and laid out the town of Eugene, which is now known as North Topeka.

Permelia Hubbard Curtis was known to all the pioneers and was loved by them all.

Julie Gonvil Pappan was born in Kansas. Her father was Louis Gonvil. Her grandfather was White Plume, head chief of the Kansas tribe of Indians. Her great-grandfather was Pawhuska, head chief of the Osage tribe of Indians, and was known as White Hair.

Julie Gonvil Pappan always lived in Kansas, and she was allotted Kaw Mile Four in the treaty of 1825 between the United States Government and the Kansas Indians.

Kaw Mile Four is the land upon which North Topeka is now situated. She and her husband sold a part of this land to William Curtis, who established the town of Eugene, which afterwards became North Topeka.

Julie Gonvil Pappan was very popular among the Indians, and in her later years was consulted by the heads of the tribe and was one of the leading figures in all Indian matters in the earlier days in Kansas and afterwards in Oklahoma. The exact date of her birth is not recorded, but she was born about the year 1800 on the Kansas or Kaw Indian lands.

Equal Rights

OFFICIAL ORGAN
of the
National Woman's Party
Capitol Hill
Washington, D. C.

Published weekly
at 19 West Chase Street
Baltimore, Md.

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Entered as second-class matter at Postoffice, Baltimore, Md., under Act March 3, 1870.

Subscription, $2.00 a Year

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

To remove all forms of the subjection of women.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 11.
House Joint Resolution Number 81.]

Introduced in the Senate, December 8, 1925, by Senator Charles E. Curtis.
Introduced in the House of Representatives, December 16, 1925, by Representative D. R. Anthony.

The Lesson of the Charwomen

ACCORDING to an Associated Press dispatch business men and building owners of Chicago's central business district, known as "the loop," pay $3,144 each night to have the office floors scrubbed. The work is done by women. A rate of 42 cents an hour is paid to each of 1,575 women, who receive also the same pay for overtime, which occasionally runs to two hours a night. They do not have any union and are among the few workers in Chicago who are not organized.

The charwomen are in charge of the building janitor, who belongs to one of the strongest unions and who draws a "salary" check twice a month that, in the words of the Associated Press, "makes the ordinary white-collar worker ashamed of his weekly stipend."

There are several morals that may be drawn from this news item, among which perhaps the most conspicuous is that women work for the same reason men do, necessity.

It is quite inconceivable that an army of 1,575 women should sally forth each evening to scrub floors all night in Chicago's office buildings just for the fun of it. They work because they have to, because they and their families need food and clothes and lodging, and they constitute a succinct and final answer to those cheerful souls who maintain that home is the sphere of woman. They are, moreover, a bedrock factor in any scheme of practical economics.

If women worked just for the fun of the thing or to earn a little extra pin money, it might be possible by argument and legislation to prevail upon them to abandon the enterprise, but since in the main they work from grim necessity, it is at the same time cruel and illogical to deny them an equal opportunity with men to earn a decent living.

The charwomen's boss repudiates legislation to protect his own economic welfare. He prefers constitutional guarantees and organization. Consider the contrast between his salary and the wretched stipend of the charwomen and draw your own conclusion.

An Approaching Opportunity

ON another page of this issue a list appears giving the names and political districts of the sixteen women who have been nominated for the National House of Representatives in the State primaries and whose names will be on the ballots in the general elections of November 2.

Even the most optimistic Feminist can scarcely assume that all of these candidates will be elected to Congress, but even if they were elected the United States would still be considerably below a number of other nations in its proportion of women representatives.

The following table prepared by the Union of Women Voters of Great Britain indicates concisely the situation that obtains among our sister nations on the other side of the water:

	No. of Women M. P.'s	*Suffrage Qualifications*
Germany	32	Equal with men
Austria	17	"
Czecho-Slovakia	17	"
Poland	17	"
Denmark	9	"
Littonia	7	"
Lithuania	7	"
Netherlands	7	"
Irish Free State	5	"
Great Britain	6	*Higher age, more difficult qualifications than men.*

The facts speak for themselves. If the United States appeared in this list it would be at the extreme end, for there are only three women members of our National Congress—Florence P. Kahn of California, Edith N. Rogers of Massachusetts, and Mary T. Norton of New Jersey, all of whom will presently be up for re-election. Let us hope that on November 2 women will utilize to the utmost the opportunity that offers to increase their representation in Congress.

How Different Are Women?

A Review of Alice Beal Parsons' "Woman's Dilemma"*

By Ruby A. Black

CUTTING straight through all the foggy thinking which has surrounded the differences between men and women and the function of women in the social scheme, Alice Beal Parsons has performed an unprecedented Feminist service by clearing the way for future studies of sex characteristics and of the vexing but vital problem of the combination of motherhood with economic independence.

Side by side she places all the so-called "scientific" findings of the secondary physical and mental differences between the sexes which are constantly being used as arguments against Equal Rights between men and women, and their contradictory nature and unscientific origin are relentlessly revealed. Briefly she reviews the functions which women have fulfilled in different social schemes, varying with time and place and circumstance, functions which controvert so patently the widespread belief that women cannot satisfactorily combine motherhood with economic independence—the only kind of independence that approaches security and permanence.

Mrs. Parsons is eminently the right person to write such a book as she has written. Fresh from the university, she managed a 1,000-acre farm where she worked with "French-Canadian lumberjacks, Yankee farm hands and home-keeping, inefficient women." Then she did social service work in Chicago, and newspaper work in New York. Today she maintains her New York home for her family—for Mrs. Parsons has children, and is speaking with the authority of mother, wife, and working woman, as well as student of social tendencies — and a country place where she raises fruit and vegetables for her family as a hobby. The knowledge and the prophecies in her book are based, as all knowledge and all prophecies should be, on both personal experience and broad social and historical research.

After devoting the first half of her book to the most positively ruthless and the most delightfully humorous study yet made of the question, "How different are women?" Mrs. Parsons goes into the practical and immediate aspects of the subject of economic independence for women combined with the fullest personal life involving love and home and children. Here, as in the first part of her book, she succeeds as no previous authors—Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Lorine Pruett, Ruth Hudnut, and half a dozen eminent periodical writers on the subject — have succeeded in stripping the subject bare of all the extraneous questions which have in most previous works befogged it. For example, in proposing the further removal of housework from the hands of the wife, Mrs. Parsons makes it clear that whether outside production of such services as cooking, child-care, laundry, window-washing, rug-cleaning, dish-washing,

ALICE BEAL PARSONS

et cetera, is on a co-operative or a profit-making basis is interesting, but totally irrevelant to the question of the advisability of women's economic independence. When she is discussing the inadequacy of the father's income for the support of the family under the increasing cost of living due partly to the increased removal of work from the home to the factory, Mrs. Parsons is not seduced from her topic by such proposals as mothers' (more properly children's) pensions. Such schemes as co-operative community kitchens and nurseries and children's pensions, whether one favors them or not, have nothing to do with the question of women's economic independence.

Mrs. Parsons says that she began her study of the question with an open mind, "except for an almost exaggerated love of home, the sort of ridiculously over-developed affection which prevents my leaving it in the spring for fear I should miss the opening of the first spring flowers, and in May because the Darwin tulips will be coming and the first leaves throwing their shadows on floor and walls, and which goes on spinning out its plausible and foolish reasons through the year, from one spring to another."

And that brings us to her definition of a home. Here again her stripping ability is brought into play with excellent effect. She shows how function after function usually attributed to the home—manufacturing, economic, defensive, educational, religious, recreational, even the "bringing of babies into the home"—is taken from the home into more efficient hands. But does this destroy the home? Not at all. Then, she concludes, these are not the essential aspects of the home. Her love for the home shows her what these essential aspects are. In the midst of "a mad planet madly whirling through space, to which men cling like rust," man builds himself "little oases of humanity," in which he surrounds himself with "people and furniture and books and wallpaper and cats and dogs that he knows and that know him." He returns to his own oasis of humanity from the dispersive, whirling, partly inhuman surroundings of his day's work to reassemble his personality. An oasis of humanity, a sort of "precipitated personality" to which a wanderer can return and reassemble his lost self—this is home, and the other functions which at one time or another have been performed in the home are accidental. The best way to maintain the home is to maintain this essential wholesomeness and delightfulness.

With this ideal of the home, and beginning her study with an open mind, Mrs. Parsons undertakes her investigation of the probable effects of women's economic independence upon the home, and the possible means of reconstructing the home so as to lose none of its essential qualities while permitting the wife to maintain her own unqualified place as an individual in a profession, an art, a business, or a factory. She is not seduced by schemes for part-time or limited employment for women, for she knows that, however they may temporarily aid a few women in gaining a measure of economic independence, they cannot bring equal opportunity for employment, pay, promotion, and self-expression, and therefore cannot be of enduring value to women.

The old self-sufficing household economy is passed. Clothing is no longer made at home to any extent. The preparation of food at home is very limited. The children are away from home most of the day for most of the year— and most mothers without outside jobs are rather regretful when the summer enables them to have their children at home all day. A corporation cleans the windows.

In considering the homes in which poverty is ever-present, Mrs. Parsons knows that too many other factors complicate the situation to make them representative in the study of women's work outside the home. In the middle-class home, however, the mother has seen her important functions taken from her, and "she finds herself more than a little jealous of the outside activities of her continually departing family, and all too often, confronted as she is with vacuity, she loses both zest

*"Woman's Dilemma," by Alice Beal Parsons. Published by Thomas Y. Crowell, New York City. $2.50.

for doing things and efficiency in doing them."

While her functions are constantly diminishing in number, skill, and importance, her husband's wages are increasingly inadequate to support the family, for what the wife formerly contributed in labor, he must now provide by buying finished products. What work remains in the home, the little cooking, the little sewing, the litle dusting, is wasteful because done on a small scale, by unskilled workers. But even in showing this, Mrs. Parsons retains the sense of humor and proportion which differentiates her book from most others on the subject. She never goes too far in making a point—and by too far I mean beyond the facts existing and the human frailties and social inadequacies involved. She knows that it is virtually impossible to provide each girl—or each boy—with an interesting, creative, perfectly suitable vocation, but she likewise knows that it is more nearly possible to do so than it is to make her contented and efficient as a "Jack of all domestic trades."

Her unbiased study leads Mrs. Parsons inevitably to the conclusion that the solution of the problem of freedom, contentment, and development for women, salvation of the home as "an oasis of humanity," and adequate income for the family is "a completion of the modernization already begun * * * * so permitting woman to recover her former economic importance by following her former activities into industry."

The various means of providing from outside the home the services customarily provided by the housekeeping wife, such as the preparation of the family meal (it will be seen that Mrs. Parsons believes in the value of a meal at home with the family together), the house-cleaning, the laundry, the care of the children, are pointed out with detachment and a full consideration of the traditional values of the old way of doing things.

A SANE and thorough chapter is devoted to "Children Under the New Scheme." Her studies of the present attempts to provide better training for young children than the untrained mother can provide should not be emasculated by summary.

Women's increasing opportunity in the economic world, and the possibility of increasing her opportunities even more radically with her greater determination to be treated on an equal basis with men and her greater permanence on the job, are cited.

Women freeing themselves from the artificially induced inferiorities of body and mind, taking their full place in a world that is full of invigorating stimuli, co-operating with their husbands in providing the most efficient and pleasant home possible, feeling the zest and exhilaration of a job demanding all their capacities—this picture does not blind Mrs. Parsons to the fact that most of the jobs in the world—including the dusting and scrubbing and cooking at home — are routine jobs. But possibility of getting such jobs rather than being tied by tradition either to a parasitic life or to a conglomeration of jobs is stimulating to women's development.

In her final chapter on the probable effect of economic independence upon women, Mrs. Parsons makes this brilliant and somewhat overwhelming comparison:

"A striking example still close to us is that of the indentured servants, transported convicts, impecunious younger sons, riffraff and adventurers of all sorts who in certain localities formed a considerable proportion of the earliest settlers in America. Given a chance to make a place for themselves, an honest competence seasoned with public esteem, these supposed misfits and rogues became men whom we are proud to call the fathers of their country. * * * * * Another class of men brought over to this continent at the same time and subjected to the same labor and privations but denied both responsibility and opportunity, the African slaves, failed to develop these qualities, but are beginning to develop them now that a measure of opportunity is given."

A fatalistic hopelessness has been developed in women dependent upon poor men for their living, and the psychology of the parasite has been developed in women dependent upon rich men, Mrs. Parsons points out. The prevention of "the ravages of financial dependence on character," the substitution of the comparative economic security through self-dependence for the uncertainty of dependence upon some one who may die or desert at any moment, opportunity for the full development of all women's potentialities, a measure of freedom of sexual selection from economic consideration, and more harmonious "oases of humanity" — these are what Mrs. Parsons foresees in economic independence for women who have their own homes and husbands and children.

Women and the League of Nations

By Vera Brittain

Editor's Note: Miss Brittain has been spending some time at Geneva as the representative of the Six Point Group, one of the leading Feminist organizations of England. Miss Brittain attended the seventh assembly of the League of Nations in the interest of the Six Point Group, and acted as correspondent during her stay at Geneva for *Time and Tide*. Miss Brittain, it will be remembered, was a recent visitor at the National Headquarters of the Woman's Party in Washington.

THE Covenant of the League of Nations, as conceived by its authors in 1919, contained no word concerning the interests of women. It was only when a deputation, organized by the International Council of Women and by the International Woman's Suffrage Alliance, visited him at Paris, that President Wilson was suddenly reminded that the organization of peace affected one-half of the world's population quite as much, if not more than, the other. His reception of the women delegates was characteristic. He welcomed them with the terse information that three minutes must suffice for the expression of their wishes, adding, in response to their very natural protest, "Anything which cannot be said intelligently in three minutes is not worth the trouble of saying at all." The women accepted the challenge, and the three minutes had not expired before Paragraph 3 had been added to Article 7 of the Covenant: "All positions under or in connection with the League, including the Secretariat, shall be open equally to men and women."

Seven years have passed since that pledge was made; how has it been kept? Can it be said that women have been called upon to play the part to which they aspired in the making of world-peace? There is no doubt that we cannot say so; there is equally little doubt that some of the worst faults of the League might have been avoided if we could. So much of the private bargaining which goes on behind the public meetings at Geneva is excused by its organizers on the ground that otherwise the "dignity" of a country will suffer, and the "dignity" of a country too often means the personal dignity of its delegate. Statesmen, from time immemorial, have been afflicted with this disease of *amour propre,* and are liable to shape their policy with a view to protecting their personal reputations. Women, on the other hand, being hampered by no traditions of diplomacy whether personal or otherwise, are more apt to consider their object first, and remember their dignity afterwards. This is why, when their opportunity for public service does come, they invariably win respect from their male colleagues, for there is no dignity so true as that which arises from the combination of singleness of purpose with self-forgetfulness.

The women who have, so far, represented their countries at the Assembly of the League of Nations, have worked industriously, efficiently and successfully, and they frequently know the subjects on which they have to specialize more thoroughly than many of the men who accom-

pany them. In spite of their success, however, a glance at the list of delegates to the Seventh Assembly showed that, out of the fifty-five member States of the League, only six had thought it worth their while to include women in their delegations, and even then not as full delegates, but only as substitutes. These six countries, which have consistently sent a woman to represent them, are Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Great Britain, Australia, and Roumania. It is surprising to see a woman delegate representing this last country, which is comparatively backward in recognizing the rights of women, when so-called enlightened countries, such as Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, Holland, France, and Switzerland have so far sent no woman delegate at all. But Mlle. Vacaresco, having been crowned for a volume of poems by the French Academy, has a literary reputation to support her interest in peace, and her work for the suppression of the traffic in women and children.

Sweden always sends to Geneva Fru Anna Bugge-Wicksell, expert on international law, and the only woman on the Mandate's Commission. Denmark is equally faithful to Froken Henni Forchhammer, the president of the Danish National Council of Women. Norway has usually sent Mlle. Bonnevie, professor at the University of Oslo, and celebrated for her work on heredity, zoology, and embryology, but this year Madame Martha Larsen Jahn, vice-president of the Norwegian Association for Public Hygiene, came instead. Australia, like Great Britain, has changed its women delegates yearly, and this year was represented by Miss Freda Bage, M.Sc. Great Britain sent Mrs. Coombe-Tennant in 1922, and Dame Edith Lyttelton in 1923. In 1924, when the Labor government was in power, Mrs. H. M. Swanwick greatly advanced the prestige of women at Geneva. Mrs. Swanwick is the editor of the English "Foreign Affairs" and an expert on international relations and disarmament; she is also a sound Feminist and played a leading part in the suffrage campaign. In spite of these qualifications she was placed on the Fifth (Humanitarian) Committee of the Assembly, and expected to confine her attention to the time-honored feminine topics of women, children and refugees. Eventually, however (the British Labor Party being somewhat less categorical in its notions of woman's "sphere" than its opponents), she was allowed to make the closing speech to the assembly on the subject of the Geneva protocol.

In 1925 the Duchess of Atholl, parliamentary secretary to the Board of Education, attended the assembly as the first woman member of the cabinet of a great power. This year Great Britain again sent Dame Edith Lyttelton, who is an expert on child-welfare and education.

On the League of Nations Secretariat, though numbers of women hold inferior positions as typists and translators, the promise of equal opportunity has been fulfilled even less than among the delegations. Only two women have held positions of first-rate importance, and one of these is shortly to be deprived of hers. Dame Rachel Crowdy of Great Britain, the head of the social section of the Secretariat, is the only woman head among the ten sections. Miss Florence Wilson, an American graduate of Columbia University, has organized and directed the League of Nations Library from the beginning, but is shortly, with her American assistant, Miss Alice Bartlett, to leave the Secretariat to make room for German members. Since America is not a member of the League, the logic of the situation might demand that all the six American members of the Secretariat should be dismissed to make room for Germany, but there is no logic which demands that two American women should be dismissed while four American men keep their posts.

AMONG the various commissions and committees of the League, women have been better represented. Mme. Curie-Sklodowska of France, the co-discoverer with her husband of radium, and Mlle. Bonnevie of Norway, have sat on the Committee of Intellectual Co-operation since it was formed. Mrs. Hamilton Wright, daughter of the Hon. William Drew, a United States Senator, serves as one of three assessors on the League of Nations Commission for the suppression of the traffic in opium. Mme. Avril de Sainte-Croix, one of the best known and most respected social workers in France, cooperates with the League in its endeavor to suppress the traffic in women and children. Dr. Paulina Luisi, the first woman in Uruguay to qualify as a doctor of medicine, was appointed by her Government in 1922 as a member of the same advisory commission, and also as Government delegate to the Fourth International Labor Conference at Geneva. Miss Karen Jeppe, a Danish woman, organizes from Aleppo the rescue of Armenian women carried off by the Turks during the war. Dr. Alice Hamilton, assistant professor of industrial medicine at Harvard Medical School, is a member of the consultative medical staff of the International Labor Office. Many other women, too numerous to mention, have worked in lesser capacities in connection with League commissions.

Among the voluntary and educational organizations connected with the League there is still a tendency to overlook the part played by women. Miss Anne Martin, the only representative of the National Woman's Party in Geneva during this Assembly, pointed out that at the Geneva Institute (one of the chief summer schools in Geneva, organized by the English League of Nations Union and the American League of Nations Non-Partisan Association), whose meetings she attended in August, only one woman, Dame Rachel Crowdy, was invited to lecture, though many other women experts were available in Geneva during the period covered by the school. Miss Martin suggested that if the organizers could be induced to invite more women lecturers, the cause of Feminism in England and America would, indirectly, be considerably advanced. She also made at one of the discussions carried on by the Institute an interesting speech on the subject of protective legislation. The idea that women themselves might not wish for such "protection" appeared to be quite new and astonishing to Mr. Ellison, the member of the International Labor Office conducting the discussion.

Much valuable work could probably be done at Geneva by representatives of Feminist societies, appointed from the various countries concerned to watch the interests of women during periods of League activity, such as the Assembly. Especially needed is a Geneva correspondent who would observe the attitude of the League towards the interests and position of women, and report from time to time on its actions in this direction to associates in different countries, with a view to obtaining full publicity for the pledge given to women by the Covenant. In the early, uncertain days when the League was still regarded as a voluntary organization with vague humanitarian aspirations, the men of the member States were quite prepared to watch a large number of women undertake the difficult and thankless task of producing order out of chaos. But now that the League is firmly established, and positions on the Secretariat are considered as desirable diplomatic prizes, the attempt to oust the women has begun, and, as the League grows in prestige, is likely to continue with increasing determination.

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New York State Activities

THE New York State Branch of the National Woman's Party has during the last month been urging the leaders of the political parties to include in their platforms a plank to place women in an absolutely equal position with men before the law.

Mrs. Clarence M. Smith, New York State chairman of the Woman's Party, together with Mrs. Lauretta Gilbert, a woman actually working in industry, a member of the Industrial Council of the Woman's Party, and also a Republican organization worker and member of the Republican County Committee, appeared before the Resolutions Committee of the Republican convention held at Madison Square Garden, New York City, on September 27, 1926, to speak in favor of an Equal Rights plank in the platform, and to protest against the inclusion of a plank providing for a 48-hour week for women only.

Mrs. Smith spoke first and was followed by Mrs. Lauretta Gilbert, who said in part: "I am appearing here not only as a representative of working women who are members of the Industrial Council of the National Woman's Party, but as an active Republican organization worker and a member of the Republican County Committee."

"I am here to urge you to include in the platform a plank for Equal Rights for men and women. I am also here to remind you that our party in 1920 had a plank in its platform for industrial equality.

"We working women absolutely oppose any plank in the platform in favor of a 48-hour week law for women alone. Women who have suffered under the 54-hour law, with its prohibition of night work, know only to well the menace of this kind of legislation. I, for one, will cease to be a Republican if my party cares so little for the rights of working women as to put a plank in its platform for a 48-hour week for women. The legislation for a 48-hour week for women so far proposed in this State specifies the eight hours a woman can work, and forbids her to work overtime with pay. Since it does not apply to men, they could, but women could not, be employed overtime in case of necessity or emergency, a fact which would make women less desirable than men as employees and decrease their earning power."

"Before the passage of the 54-hour law for women, with its prohibition of night work, I had a position as conductor on the street railways and earned $5.40 a day, with which I had to support myself and three children. When this law passed I lost my job. We were called to a meeting and the welfare workers referred us to the Y. W. C. A. for employment. I went there and was offered a job as an untrained domestic worker at $7.00 a week."

Miss Amy Wren, a member of the Woman's Party, president of the Women's Press Club and a Republican State committeewoman and delegate to the convention, spoke in favor of an Equal Rights plank and against a 48-hour week plank for women.

Mrs. James Griswold Wentz, president of the Women's Republican Club; Mrs. Thomas Slack, a Republican delegate to the convention, a former Republican candidate for the office of Register of the City of New York, and president of the Legislative League of New York; and Mrs. Beatrice Stevenson, vice-chairman of the Kings County Republican Committee; all spoke against a 48-hour week plank in the platform.

During the week beginning on September 26 the biennial convention of the Democratic Party of New York State was held in the city of Syracuse.

Here the controversy upon the question of industrial equality made its expected appearance, dividing the Democratic women into two camps.

Mrs. Mary A. Murray, chairman of the Industrial Council of the National Woman's Party, was present to oppose the special "protective" legislation advocated by the women leaders of the Democratic Party. She represented fourteen hundred women employees within the State, most of whom are adherents of that Party.

The arguments of Mrs. Murray and of her opponents, including Miss Dorothy Straus, spokesman of the League of Women Voters, were given much headline publicity in the newspapers during the convention days.

Sitting upon the tentative Draft Committee and the Resolutions Committee were seasoned proponents of 48-hour and minimum wage laws for women only. Mrs. Murray in a public statement pointed to the party's failure to include a representative of working women in both of these committees as "an insult to the intelligence of these women."

While the Democratic State platform in 1924 pledged enactment of these measures they have failed of passage during the two legislative sessions of the last administration, the Democratic Governor being unable to influence a Republican Senate and Assembly.

The convention, therefore, has reiterated its former position in regard to restrictive legislation for women only.

While staying in Syracuse Mrs. Murray accompanied by other members of the Syracuse Branch of the Woman's Party, visited a number of the larger factories of the city, addressing their women employees and securing signatures to the Industrial Council's petition.

At the factories much interest was shown in her discussion, the women being quick to comprehend the shortage in pay to accrue from a shortened working day. At some of the plants the women workers declared that they knew of no positions in the plant in which women might not be supplanted by men or boys, should a 48-hour law for women only be enacted.

On the second day of the convention the Syracuse Branch entertained at a breakfast in the Hotel Syracuse in honor of Mrs. Murray, when flowers were presented and she in turn addressed the gathering. Her exposition of the practical effects upon working women of laws restricting their liberty of contract while not limiting such liberty for men served to clarify the minds of both members and non-members upon this important issue and to strengthen the support of the Woman's Party in New York State.

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